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(U) Response to Brigadier General Thomas N. Wilson 30 APR 1965

1. (SECRET) By letter, dated 22 April 1965 (Atch 2), Brigadier General Thomas N. Wilson, Commander, 13th ATF, advised General Blanchard that Lt General Yang, Shao-lien, Chief of Staff, Chinese Air Force, has been invited by the CIA to visit the U.S. and has been instructed to call on General Blanchard and General McConnell. General Wilson believes that General Yang will raise the following questions:

a. The CAF need for 12" lens cones for the RF-104G for a classified reconnaissance program.

b. Relief for the shortage in aircraft for that program.

AFOUE

2. (TOP SECRET) In November 1959, the U.S. agreed to provide reconnaissance aircraft to GRC to conduct reconnaissance over the China mainland. At present, the agreement covers four RF-101s. Recent losses (one in December 1964 and one on 18 March 1965) reduced the inventory to a total of two. CINCPAC requested the JCS to provide two replacement aircraft. The request was validated by the DIA and passed to the USAF for action.

3. (TOP SECRET) By message, 22 April 1965 (Atch 3), the CSAF directed replacement of the two RF-101s. At the same time, the problem of the critical world-wide shortage of RF-101s was reviewed, and PACAF was advised to encourage use by the GRC of the RF-104G in the program with the ultimate objective of using the RF-104G exclusively and phasing out the RF-101A. However, this approach is dependent on the supply of adequate external tanks to enhance the range of the RF-104G and the procurement of 12" lens cones for the KS-67A camera to provide a high altitude photo capability.

4. (SECRET) AFLC has allocated $80,000 for the emergency procurement of eight 12" lens cones plus spares for expedited delivery in October 1965. The Air Staff is expediting procurement of RF-104G external

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pylon and tip tanks with delivery shceduled for September 1965.

5. (SECRET) The attached letter to General Wilson (Atch 1) advises him that the delivery of the 12" lens cones will be made much earlier than he had expected. Also, additional guidance is provided for the GRC reconnaissance program.

RECOMMENDATION

6. (UNCLASSIFIED) That the attached letter to General Wilson be signed.

WOODROW P. SWANCUTT
Brigadier General, USAF
Directorate of Operations

3 Atchs
1. (TS) Prop ltr to Gen Wilson
2. (S) Gen Wilson's ltr to Gen Blanchard
3. (TS) AFCCS Msg 65917, dtd 22 Apr 65

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